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AEROSPACE & AMERICA 2000 COMMUNITIES

BY

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ON APRIL 18, 1991, PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH STATED: "TO THOSE WHO WANT TO SEE REAL IMPROVEMENT IN AMERICAN EDUCATION, I SAY: THERE WILL BE NO RENAISSANCE WITHOUT REVOLUTION." THE PRESIDENT USED THAT STATEMENT IN HIS OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT OF AMERICA 2000: AN EDUCATION STRATEGY.

AMERICA 2000 IS A BOLD, COMPREHENSIVE, AND LONG-RANGE PLAN TO MOVE EVERY COMMUNITY IN AMERICA TOWARD THE NATIONAL EDUCATION GOALS ADOPTED BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE GOVERNORS IN 1990.

WHEN THE PRESIDENT CALLED THE GOVERNORS TOGETHER FOR AN EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT IT WAS ONLY THE THIRD TIME IN THE NATION'S HISTORY THAT SUCH A FORUM WAS CALLED BY THE PRESIDENT TO ADDRESS A NATIONAL ISSUE OF CONCERN.

WHAT ARE THE NATIONAL EDUCATION GOALS?

BY THE YEAR 2000:

1. ALL CHILDREN IN AMERICA WILL START SCHOOL READY TO LEARN.
2. THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE WILL INCREASE TO AT LEAST 90 PERCENT.
3. AMERICAN STUDENTS WILL LEAVE GRADES FOUR, EIGHT AND TWELVE HAVING DEMONSTRATED COMPETENCY IN CHALLENGING SUBJECT MATTER INCLUDING ENGLISH, MATHEMATICS,

SCIENCE, HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY; AND EVERY SCHOOL IN AMERICA WILL ENSURE THAT ALL STUDENTS LEARN TO USE THEIR MINDS WELL, SO THEY MAY BE PREPARED FOR RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP, FURTHER LEARNING AND PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT IN OUR MODERN ECONOMY.

4. U.S. STUDENTS WILL BE FIRST IN THE WORLD IN SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS ACHIEVEMENT.
5. EVERY ADULT AMERICAN WILL BE LITERATE AND WILL POSSESS THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS NECESSARY TO COMPETE IN A GLOBAL ECONOMY AND EXERCISE THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CITIZENSHIP.
6. EVERY SCHOOL IN AMERICA WILL BE FREE OF DRUGS AND VIOLENCE AND WILL OFFER A DISCIPLINED ENVIRONMENT CONDUCTIVE TO LEARNING.

AMERICA 2000 IS A LONG-TERM STRATEGY TO MOVE ALL OF US TOWARD THE SIX NATIONAL EDUCATION GOALS THAT ARE DESIGNED TO CLOSE OUR SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE GAP.

THE STRATEGY ANTICIPATES MAJOR CHANGE IN OUR 110,000 PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS, CHANGE IN EVERY AMERICAN COMMUNITY, CHANGE IN EVERY AMERICAN HOME, CHANGE IN OUR ATTITUDE ABOUT LEARNING.

THE STRATEGY WILL SPUR FAR-REACHING CHANGES IN WEARY PRACTICES, OUTMODDED ASSUMPTIONS AND LONG-ASSUMED CONSTRAINTS ON EDUCATION. IT WILL REQUIRE US TO MAKE SOME LIFESTYLE CHANGES TOO. YET FEW ELEMENTS OF THE STRATEGY ARE UNPRECEDENTED. TODAY'S BEST IDEAS, DEDICATED EDUCATION REFORMS, IMPRESSIVE INNOVATIONS AND AMBITIOUS EXPERIMENTS ALREADY POINT THE WAY. WE ALREADY KNOW THE DIRECTION IN WHICH WE MUST GO; THE AMERICA 2000 STRATEGY WILL HELP US GET THERE.

AMERICA 2000 IS A NATIONAL STRATEGY, NOT A FEDERAL PROGRAM. IT HONORS LOCAL CONTROL, RELIES ON LOCAL INITIATIVE, AFFIRMS

STATES AND LOCALITIES AS THE SENIOR PARTNERS IN PAYING FOR EDUCATION AND RECOGNIZES THE PRIVATE SECTOR AS A VITAL PARTNER TOO.

AMERICA 2000 IS A BOTTOM-UP STRATEGY, NOT A TOP-DOWN PROGRAM. AMERICA 2000 FOCUSES ON EDUCATION FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY, PRE-BIRTH TO SENIOR CITIZENS, AND IS NOT A K-12 PROGRAM. 85 PERCENT OF OUR NATIONS WORKFORCE IN THE YEAR 2000 IS WORKING TODAY. THE EDUCATION AND JOB SKILLS THAT WERE LEARNED YESTERDAY, MAY BE OUTDATED TOMORROW BECAUSE OF THE RAPID CHANGES IN THE WORKPLACE DUE TO TECHNOLOGY.

WE MUST BECOME A NATION OF STUDENTS AND LIVE THE BELIEF THAT LEARNING IS A LIFELONG PROCESS. EDUCATION MUST BECOME THE PRIORITY OF ALL OUR COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND NEEDS.

I WANT YOU TO GIVE YOURSELF A MENTAL WORD ASSOCIATION TEST. I WILL GIVE YOU TWO WORDS AND AS I LIST THEM, I WANT YOU TO ASSOCIATE FIVE WORDS THAT COME TO YOUR MIND OUT OF YOUR LIFETIME EXPERIENCES.

THE FIRST WORD IS SCHOOL. YOU SHOULD PAUSE AND THINK OF FIVE WORDS THAT YOU ASSOCIATE WITH SCHOOL.

THE SECOND WORD IS COMMUNITY. IN THE SAME FASHION AS ABOVE, IDENTIFY FIVE WORDS THAT YOU ASSOCIATE WITH COMMUNITY.

WHEN I HAVE THE ABILITY TO ELICIT VERBAL RESPONSES TO THIS WORD ASSOCIATION QUIZ, I GET VERY FEW PEOPLE WHO ASSOCIATE COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL TOGETHER. MOST PEOPLE WILL ASSOCIATE WORDS SUCH AS CLASSROOM, TEACHER, A SPECIFIC SUBJECT, AN EXTRA-

CURRICULAR ACTIVITY OR A PERSONAL INCIDENT WITH THE WORD SCHOOL. IN COMPARISON, THE WORD COMMUNITY WILL ELICIT AN ASSOCIATION WITH PARKS, CHURCHES, HOSPITALS, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, POLICE, FIRE DEPARTMENT, SOCIAL NEIGHBORHOOD SETTINGS.

OVER THE YEARS, WE HAVE SEPARATED COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL FROM EACH OTHER AND AS A RESULT MAINLY PEOPLE WITH CHILDREN IN K-12 WILL CONCENTRATE ON THE STATE OF EDUCATION. WHEN PEOPLE THINK COMMUNITY, THEY MUST IMMEDIATELY ASSOCIATE EDUCATION AS A COMMUNITY PRIORITY. THE AMERICA 2000 STRATEGY WILL BE CORRECTLY IMPLEMENTED IF YOU ARE THINKING COMMUNITY AS YOU BEGIN TO IMPLEMENT THE STRATEGY.

AMERICA 2000 HAS FOUR TRACKS THAT WILL BE PURSUED SIMULTANEOUSLY:

- I. FOR TODAY'S STUDENTS, WE MUST RADICALLY IMPROVE TODAY'S SCHOOLS BY MAKING ALL 110,000 OF THEM BETTER AND MORE ACCOUNTABLE FOR RESULTS.
- II. FOR TOMORROW'S STUDENTS, WE MUST INVENT NEW SCHOOLS TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF A NEW CENTURY WITH A NEW GENERATION OF AMERICAN SCHOOLS BRINGING AT LEAST 535 OF THEM INTO EXISTENCE BY 1996.
- III. FOR THE REST OF US (YESTERDAY'S STUDENTS/TODAY'S WORKFORCE): A NATION OF STUDENTS, PRIVATE-SECTOR SKILLS AND STANDARDS WILL BE ADOPTED BY LABOR AND INDUSTRY TO BE COORDINATED THROUGH LOCAL SKILL CLINICS.
- IV. COMMUNITIES WHERE LEARNING CAN HAPPEN; TO BECOME AN AMERICA 2000 COMMUNITY, THE FOUR STEPS NEED TO BE COMPLETED:
 - A. ADOPT THE NATIONAL EDUCATION GOALS
 - B. DEVELOP A COMMUNITY-WIDE STRATEGY TO ACHIEVE THEM.
 - C. DESIGN A REPORT CARD TO MEASURE RESULTS.
 - D. PLAN FOR AND SUPPORT A NEW AMERICAN SCHOOL.

WHAT CAN YOU AS A MEMBER OF THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRY DO TO
HELP PROMOTE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE NATIONAL EDUCATION GOALS?
THE ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION CAN BE ANSWERED THROUGH THE MANY
ROLES THAT YOU PLAY IN YOUR COMMUNITY:

1. AS A LEADER OF YOUR ORGANIZATION; SELECT ONE OR MORE OF
THE NATIONAL EDUCATION GOALS ON WHICH TO FOCUS. THE
PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE THAT YOU HOLD WOULD BE OF AN
INVALUABLE HELP ON GOAL 4 - U.S. STUDENTS WILL BE FIRST
IN THE WORLD IN SCIENCE AND MATH. ENCOURAGE YOUR
EMPLOYEES TO JOIN OR HELP CREATE AN AMERICA 2000
COMMUNITY. ENCOURAGE YOUR EMPLOYEES TO MENTOR STUDENTS
IN THE COMMUNITY. PURSUE LEARNING FOR YOURSELF AND
YOUR EMPLOYEES.

2. AS A LEADER IN YOUR COMMUNITY; GET INVOLVED IN YOUR
COMMUNITY IN CREATING OR ASSISTING AN AMERICA 2000
COMMUNITY STRATEGY.

PROVIDE A FORUM FOR TOWN MEETINGS TO DISCUSS THE
NATIONAL EDUCATION GOALS.

BECOME A CATALYST FOR CHANGE IN YOUR COMMUNITY. COMMIT
YOURSELF TO FUNDAMENTAL REFORMS IN YOUR SCHOOL SYSTEM.

3. IDENTIFY WITH YOUR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:

USE YOUR EXPERTISE TO ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A
SKILL CLINIC IN YOUR COMMUNITY. A SKILL CLINIC WILL
OFFER THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

- INTAKE, ASSESSMENT, REFERRAL AND CAREER COUNSELING
ALL AT THE SAME LOCATION.
- COORDINATED INTAKE AND PROCESSING BY SOCIAL
SERVICE AGENCIES.
- EVALUATION OF PRIOR AND CURRENT SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE
AND INTERESTS THROUGH EDUCATIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL
ASSESSMENTS.
- THROUGH ASSESSMENT OF SKILLS AND INTERESTS,
REFERRAL TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING MAY OCCUR:
EDUCATIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS,
FURTHER ASSESSMENT, CAREER COUNSELING OR A JOB.

- CAREER COUNSELING HELPS CLIENTS IDENTIFY CAREERS THAT MOST APPROPRIATELY FIT INTERESTS AND ABILITIES.

4. PARENT, GRANDPARENT OR CONCERNED CITIZEN:

INVOLVE YOURSELF WITH EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES IN THE ACCOUNTABILITY PACKAGE OF TRACK ONE OF THE AMERICA 2000 STRATEGY: FOR TODAY'S STUDENTS, BETTER AND MORE ACCOUNTABLE SCHOOLS.

THIS PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- WORLD CLASS STANDARDS
- AMERICAN ACHIEVEMENT TESTS
- PRESIDENTIAL ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIPS
- REPORT CARDS
- CHANGES IN NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS
- NEW CHOICE INCENTIVES AND CHOICE APPLIED TO CHAPTER I
- EDUCATIONAL FLEXIBILITY LEGISLATION TO SUPPORT THE SCHOOL AS THE SITE OF REFORM
- MERIT SCHOOL PROGRAMS TO REWARD SCHOOLS THAT MOVE TOWARD THE GOALS
- GOVERNORS ACADEMIES FOR SCHOOL LEADERS
- GOVERNORS ACADEMIES FOR TEACHERS
- DIFFERENTIAL PAY FOR TEACHERS
- ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION FOR TEACHERS AND PRINCIPALS

THE NATIONAL EDUCATION GOALS AND THE AMERICA 2000 STRATEGY ARE AMBITIOUS, YET THEY CAN AND MUST BE ACHIEVED. HOWEVER, THEY CANNOT BE ACHIEVED BY OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM AS IT IS PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED. SUBSTANTIAL, EVEN RADICAL CHANGES WILL HAVE TO BE MADE.

A STRONG COMMITMENT AND CONCERTED EFFORT IS NEEDED FROM EVERY SECTOR AND EVERY CITIZEN TO IMPROVE DRAMATICALLY THE PERFORMANCE OF THE NATION'S EDUCATION SYSTEM AND EACH AND EVERY STUDENT.

I STRONGLY URGE YOU TO CALL THE AMERICA 2000 OFFICE, 1-800-USA-LEARN AND JOIN THIS CRUSADE TODAY.